

generally smaller: it delights in moisture, and is often seen on the banks of rivulets with very large blossoms.

The narrow-leaved Bitter Cress (*Cardamine impatiens*) is rather rare; the flowers are small and white, and the leaves cut into narrow segments. It is found in Monmouthshire, Derbyshire, Westmoreland and Cumberland. It has been discovered that some garden plants, if allowed to remain in the same situation for several years die away, and the cause assigned being that such roots as the Pansy and Larkspur throw off an abundant quantity of excrementitious discharge, which saturates the soil, and renders it unfit for the growth of plants of the same species; and such plants are therefore possessed with the property of having their seed pods of a hard and nearly horny substance, which open with a spring, and throw their seeds to a distance; such is the case with this flower, which generally grows on rocks and rocky situations; it throws its ripe seed to a considerable distance on being touched, as if it were endowed with vitality, and had a care for its own embryo progeny.

THE COMMON WART CRESS.

(*Corónopus Rué'ii.*)

The common Wart Cress, or Swine's Cress, is

an insignificant plant, and is merely noticed here as a type of the order to which it belongs, and not for any beauty or associations connected with it; it usually roots itself among gravel in waste places, and is seldom observed by the passer-by. It is included in the same class as the last, but the order is different in consequence of its having a short seed-pod or pouch, and therefore belonging to the order *siliculosa*. These plants also belong to the important natural order *Cruciferae*, many of which are edible, as the watercress (*Nasturtium officinale*); Turnip (*Brassica Rapa*), and Horse-radish, (*Cochléaria Armoracia*). The whole family contains an essential oil which renders them stimulating, and they are anti-scorbutic.

THE COMMON ASH.

(*Fraxinus excelsior*)

Class, Diandria. Order, Monogynia. Nat. Ord. Jasmineae.

This common tree of our woods and brakes is used for a variety of purposes, and the wood is used principally by the cooper and the turner. In addition to its useful properties, it possesses others that render it a favourite with landscape gardeners, on account of its light and elegant form when